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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT **Attitude of the Soviets Towards Kazakhs and
Minority Groups in Kazakhstan**

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1. The Soviet attitude towards minority groups in Kazakhstan appeared to be clear-cut; namely, an attitude of exploitation. The native Kazakh was treated as a citizen of the USSR but there was present an attitude that the Kazakhs had to be "taught" the Soviet way of life; that the Kazakh was inferior to the Russian. This attitude was reflected in the fact that although Kazakhs headed up various government posts, nevertheless there were always Russians present who made the decisions and gave the orders. In short, the Russians exhibited an arrogant, overbearing attitude. In theory, the Soviet propaganda always pointed out that native Kazakhs, loyal to the Party, headed up government and Party activities. Better living conditions, better working conditions and better opportunities were highly propagandized. But still the Kazakh failed to see the immediate, personal benefit of any of the "new ideas."
2. The Soviet, in its program of exploitation of Kazakhstan, sent many people of various nationalities to the country. The majority of these were deportees from the West, sent to Kazakhstan ostensibly as workers but actually for political or security reasons. They were sent to the coal mines in and around Karakanda. There were people from Hungary, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, [redacted] as well as Chinese and Mongolians. [redacted] In my opinion, outside of the Chinese and native Kazakhs, none of these was regarded as a minority group as such. Rather, they were regarded as citizens of the Soviet and, none simply, as slave labor. They received no pay, or if they did it was all taken from them for food, clothing and shelter. While the Chinese Consular offices operated in Kazakhstan the Chinese had some representation as a minority group, but despite the Chinese Nationalist Government representation the Soviets did about what they pleased with the Chinese. [redacted] many Chinese prisoners sent from Sinkiang province from 1943 to 1946. They were badly treated and only about 10 out of every hundred survived. [redacted] the corpses of the dead thrown out of trains along railroads. [redacted] many Chinese sent to labor camps on one pretext or another. The attitude of the Soviets toward all nationalities was one of complete exploitation with propaganda aimed at the Kazakh only in order to win him over. The other nationalities did not matter to the Soviets.

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